

have to pay off. The Congressional Budget Office said all of this spending will have a negative effect on the economy. Let Americans keep more of their own money, tax cuts for all those that pay and report their taxes. Wasteful government spending is not the answer. It is the problem.

And that's just the way it is.

#### STOP DEFICIT SPENDING

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I take some delight in listening to my friend from Texas rail about the government not being able to spend money it doesn't have. Yet these Republicans are the people who have been spending money the government didn't have for years, putting a war in Iraq on our children's credit card, putting massive tax cuts in place to benefit a tiny portion of the tax-paying public and ignoring the needs of the vast majority. They have been on a spending binge under the Bush administration and Republican control to fund special interests and "bridges to nowhere."

We invite anybody to look at the proposals that have been advanced. It is to stimulate the economy, to help stop the economic free-fall in our States, to shore up the problems in States from Michigan to Oregon to Florida, to keep the promises that the President made during the campaign, and most of all, to stop the wasteful spending for special interests and focus it on the taxpayers who need it the most.

#### OPPOSE THE STIMULUS PACKAGE

(Mr. GOODLATTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise and congratulate my colleague from Michigan. The long and distinguished career of Mr. DINGELL is to be congratulated by all of us.

But today I rise in strong opposition to what is working its way back to the floor of this House in the form of a so-called "stimulus package." This package will stimulate Big Government. It is not going to stimulate our economy.

And with regard to the comments of the gentleman from Oregon, let me just say that I would invite all of my colleagues and everyone in the country to look at what is in this legislation and they will see that this is all about growing the size of government, not creating jobs to grow our economy.

And I would invite people to look at the Republican alternative, which we have offered, which costs half as much money and is projected to create twice as many jobs. That is what people want. That is what people understand. They want to see the great engine of growth in this country, the small businesses empowered by the kinds of incentives that are contained in our leg-

islation to create the jobs that are needed in this country. Oppose the stimulus. This is not the way to rebuild the American economy.

#### ECONOMISTS AGREE WE NEED TO ACT

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, millions of Americans across the country, including many in my home State of New Jersey, are losing their jobs, their homes, and their health care. The economists agree that unless Congress acts to stem the tide of unemployment and the disappearing jobs, the American economy will continue to decline.

Chad Stone from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities said, "There is no time to waste." Mark Zandi, an economist who was an adviser to Senator McCain's Presidential campaign, said the economic downturn is likely to "intensify further unless policymakers respond aggressively." John Ogg from the "24/7 Wall Street" warns the economy "is going to get worse, much worse" without this legislation. An economist from California State University said "without the stimulus package, the downside of this economy won't be arrested."

Economists are united in the need for this Congress to act boldly and quickly. We must pass an economic stimulus recovery package immediately so that we can begin the long process of turning this economy around and ending the pain so many Americans are feeling all over our country.

#### CUT TAXES AND CONTROL SPENDING

(Mr. SCALISE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, as our country faces tough economic times, I think it is very important that we act responsibly to do the right thing to address this problem as opposed to what some people are proposing, and that is just to ram through something with expediency, not worrying about the consequences. I think we don't need to look any further than in our past to make sure, as people said before, if you don't learn from the mistakes of your past, you're doomed to repeat them.

Let's look at what the Treasury Secretary under FDR said during the New Deal. Henry Morgenthau said, "After 8 years of this administration, we have just as much unemployment as when we started, and an enormous debt to boot." He went on to say about the New Deal during the 1930s, "I have got my responsibility to my country, which comes first. We have tried spending money. We are spending more than we have ever spent before, and it does not work." That is not a Republican speaking. That was the Treasury Secretary under FDR.

Spending massive amounts of money doesn't work. It saddles future generations with more debt. There is a better alternative, and that is to cut taxes and control the spending like many of us propose.

#### SUPPORT H.R. 156

(Mr. MITCHELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MITCHELL. I rise today to thank Speaker PELOSI for agreeing to block the next congressional pay raise. As government acts to cap executive compensation and as millions of Americans watch their incomes shrink, a pay raise for Members of Congress would seem glaringly out of touch. If we are going to talk the talk of fiscal discipline, we must also walk the walk of self-restraint. The American people are not getting a pay raise this year, and neither should Congress.

I also wish to thank Dr. RON PAUL and 107 of our colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, who are willing to support H.R. 156, the Stop the Congressional Pay Raise Act. Without the leadership of these Members, so many of them new Members, we may not have taken this important step.

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#### WORKING FAMILIES WANT THE RIGHT THING

(Mr. McCOTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, we in Michigan understand the need for timely action on a stimulus plan that can help create jobs. We have suffered long. We have suffered hard. We believe that the proper action of the Federal Government can play a temporary stimulative effect that helps us. But perhaps we are being finicky, because we do not merely want something, we want the right thing. And we know that, above all, working families cannot afford a \$1 trillion mistake that does not help them keep their jobs, keep their homes and keep their hopes for the future.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SCHAUER). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.